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LETTER REPORTEDLY SENT BY VIDELA TO CARTER

PY011836Y Buenos Aires Domestic Service in Spanish 1030 GMT 1 Jun 78 PY

[Text] Foreign press agencies yesterday distributed the text of a message sent by Lt Gen Jorge Rafael Videla to President Jimmy Carter. In his letter, General Videla expressed his belief that relations between the two countries offer many possibilities for cooperation. The Argentine president's letter also announced Argentina's decision to ratify the treaty under which Latin America foregoes the development or storage of nuclear weapons.

The reports state that the message from the Argentine president was delivered last Friday, just before the speech delivered by Foreign Minister Montes before the special UN General Assembly session on disarmament. During the speech, Minister Montes announced that preliminary procedures for ratification of the treaty for the denuclearization of Latin America had been initiated.

The press agencies emphasized that the message from the Argentine president was more than a courteous anticipation of Foreign Minister Montes' speech and was intended to put an end to speculations about the deterioration of relations between the two countries circulated by various press media.

[Buenos Aires TELAM Spanish 0015 GMT on 1 June reports that official confirmation of the letter's existence could not be obtained, although Foreign Ministry sources stated that Minister Montes did not deliver any message during his recent visit to New York City, where he attended the UN special General Assembly.]

MONTES REVIEWS DISARMAMENT STANCE ON RETURN HOME

PY311318Y Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 2045 GMT 30 May 78 PY

[Excerpts] Buenos Aires, 30 May--On his return from New York, Foreign Minister Oscar Antonio Montes said today the Argentine position on disarmament is obviously a middle-of-the-road one, that it agrees with the French position and that the general feeling is that, in the end, it will be the position adopted by the committee [at the session].

At Ezeiza airport reporters asked him about measures which should be taken so that disarmament may become a reality. He answered: This problem should be divided into two parts: nuclear and conventional weapons. I am very optimistic about the nuclear problem, but as far as conventional weapons are concerned, it will be a long struggle. We are certain that since we were able to hold a special session to thoroughly study this subject, however, we will also find a solution to this problem.

Regarding the designation of Ambassador Ortiz de Rozas as president of the committee and his unanimous election by the assembly, he pointed out: This implies all the other countries supported Argentina, taking into account our independent position on all aspects of the subject.

Asked when and where the Latin American countries' conference will take place, the foreign minister answered: Venezuela called for an informal meeting of those foreign ministers who were attending the UN conference to discuss the issue of a denuclearized Latin America and to review the control of conventional weapons.

He added: We decided that first of all the signatories of Ayacucho will hold a meeting and that later all the permanent Latin American delegates to the United Nations will discuss the issue in greater detail.

Montes continued: Meanwhile, all the foreign ministers will read very carefully the working papers we received and later we will hold a second informal meeting. This meeting will be held in Washington, since all of us will be there attending the OAS conference, but it will be held outside of the OAS framework.

He was also asked whether relations between Argentina and the United States will change because of the human rights issue, and he answered: The human rights issue is a temporary aspect of our relations which neither affects nor alters our relations.

Foreign Minister Montes was welcomed at Ezeiza airport by Capt Gualter Allara, foreign relations under secretary, and other Foreign Ministry officials.

LIENDO SAYS LABOR SITUATION RETURNING TO NORMAL

FY311817Y Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1419 GMT 30 May 78 FY

[Text] Buenos Aires, 30 May--Labor Minister Brig Gen Horacio Tomas Liendo asserted today that the "government is on the path toward complete normalization of the labor sector" and he acknowledged that the favorable evolution of the sector's situation indicates that the idea must not be discarded that "steps can be made" toward this objective.

Nevertheless, he made it clear that the opportunity for taking some steps in this direction is not exactly linked with the trip to the ILO assembly and he is of the opinion that "there may be expectations which are not realistic" because these measures "can be adopted before, during or after the ILO assembly."

The minister made these remarks this morning to a metropolitan radio station just before participating, at the headquarters of the armed forces Joint Chief of Staff, in a meeting with government delegates, workers and businessmen who will represent Argentina at the ILO assembly which will begin on 7 June in Geneva, Switzerland.

At this meeting, which began at 1000 with representatives from the army, navy and air force, the members of the delegation were given guidelines "about the country's position regarding the common factors which must prevail" in Geneva in order that, "above and beyond labor positions, there be agreement regarding the nation's high interests," Liendo explained today. Before this, official spokesmen had indicated that the meeting would especially analyze how efforts of the Argentine delegation could help counter the campaign which has been mounted abroad to damage the country's image.

In his remarks, which were made to journalist Jose Ignacio Loiez and then broadcast over LR-1 Radio El Mundo, the minister explained the reasons for the meeting, which was held at the headquarters of the Joint Chiefs of Staff.

He indicated that the meeting was in view of the "government's responsibility to guide the various sectors regarding the country's position on common factors which must prevail, because the sectors as a whole make up the country's delegation."

The minister made it clear that "this does not exclude, it is true, the sectorial positions which each must assume, but we wish to integrate them with the shared Argentine viewpoints in order that there be agreement regarding the nation's higher interests and so that this will be correctly interpreted by private sector delegates."

Regarding the expected announcement of easing restrictions on the labor sector, Liendo said that the government is continually analyzing the situation in this sector and "we are always ready to take steps to achieve the objectives which have been outlined--which, it is true, are none other than completely normalizing the sector."

The minister added that "the sector's evolution in this direction is continually being analyzed," and he emphasized that "so far we have had encouraging results." Therefore, the idea must not be discarded that "steps can be taken toward what the government understands as normalization because this is an objective of the process."

Concluding, Liendo said that "the opportunity for taking steps in this direction is not exactly linked to the trip to the ILO assembly," and he commented that "in this area there may be expectations which do not conform to reality. In other words, the measures which are being analyzed by the government, as it always does, can be implemented before, during or after the ILO assembly, because they are not linked with this international event."

PROTEST MADE TO SWISS OVER OCCUPATION OF EMBASSY

PY010144Y Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 0110 GMT 1 Jun 78 PY

[Text] Buenos Aires, 31 May--The Argentine Foreign Ministry today expressed to Swiss Ambassador William Frei the "profound displeasure" of the national government over the temporary occupation of the Argentine Embassy in Bern, according to reliable sources of the Foreign Ministry.

This report is concerned with news from the Swiss capital that on Monday members of a so-called Marxist league temporarily occupied the Argentine Embassy to protest the world soccer championship.

According to the report, Ambassador Frei was called to the Foreign Ministry and "was told by officials of the government's profound displeasure over this event."

MAY ISSUE OF DERECHOS DEL HOMBRE BANNED

PY272011Y Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 0230 GMT 27 May 78 PY

[Text] Buenos Aires, 26 May--The national executive branch, through Decree No 1,146, has prohibited distribution, sale and circulation in the nation of the May issue of DERECHOS DEL HOMBRE, edited by Antonio Sofia, printed in Cogtal, at 1785 Corrientes and 767 Rivadavis.

Article No 2 indicates that the communications secretariat, the national customs office and the federal police will take the necessary measures to enforce Article No 1 of the decree.

The decree indicated that an analysis of the May 1978 issue of DERECHOS DEL HOMBRE, official publication of the Argentine League of Human Rights, reveals an editorial aimed at creating in public opinion a distorted image of government action against subversion through the systematic dissemination of inexact and false statements, which at the same time seeks to discredit the armed and security forces by indirectly accusing them of violations of human rights. The decree also indicated that his publication uses emotional stimulation based on false ideas to promote adverse reactions by readers and to prevent them from understanding the high goals of the process of national reorganization to completely eradicate subversion. In conclusion, the decree stated that the publication DERECHOS DEL HOMBRE is contributing, from within the nation, to the international campaign unleashed to distort the nation's image and is helping the actions of people who are seeking to destroy Argentine society.

FRENCH PHILOSOPHER-JOURNALIST DETAINED BY POLICE

PY292235Y Paris AFP in Spanish 2012 GMT 29 May 78 PY

[Text] Buenos Aires, 29 May--Bernard Henri Levy, a member of the emerging school of French philosophers who came here on a journalistic assignment, was arrested on his arrival Saturday and held 4 hours by Argentine police, it was reported today. The police accused Levy of having destroyed subversive documents aboard the plane in which he traveled to Argentina. The police stated that the French philosopher was reported by a Chilean passenger aboard the same plane.

Levy was interrogated by five agents on his motives for visiting Argentina and the contacts he planned to make in the country. The police also conducted a search of his person and his luggage, in which material was found considered subversive by the authorities. This included an article from the French weekly LE NOUVEL OBSERVATEUR, a report on Argentina by Amnesty International and publications by the International League of the Rights of Man.

After 4 hours' detention, Levy was authorized to enter Argentina and to reside at the Sheraton Hotel. The French philosopher, who will leave Argentina in the next few days, came here on assignment for LE NOUVEL OBSERVATEUR, for the NEW REPUBLIC of Washington, for ESPRESSO of Rome and for CAMBIO 16 of Madrid to report on activities prior to the World Cup matches.

ELEVEN EXILED PERUVIANS GRANTED ASYLUM

PY312141Y Paris AFP in Spanish 2057 GMT 31 May 78 PY

[Text] Buenos Aires, 31 May--It was officially announced today that 11 Peruvians who were deported by the Peruvian Government have been granted asylum by the Argentine Government.

Thirteen Peruvian citizens arrived in the northern city of Jujuy on 25 May and 11 requested political asylum from the Argentine Government while 2 are trying to be accepted by Sweden and Mexico, where they have lived as residents.

The 11 asylees are: Vice Adm Guillermo Faura Gay; Jose Arce Baella Tuesta, reporter; Justiniano Romulo Apaza Ordonez; Valentin Pacheco Kisper, union leader; Javier Diez Canceco Cisneros, reporter and sociologist; Jesus Jose Luis Alvarado Bravo, reporter; Humberto Damonte Larrain, editor and reporter; Genaro Alfonso Ledesma Izquieta, lawyer and professor; Ricardo Colmenares, agricultural engineer; Ricardo Cesar Napuri Chapiro, sociologist and reporter.

It was also reported that the ambassadors of the two countries are studying the situation of Angel Hugo Blanco Galdoz and Ricardo Diaz Chavez.

HERALD SEES ENDING RIGHTS ABUSES AS BEST POLICY

PY292057Y Buenos Aires HERALD in English 29 May 78 p 8 PY

[Editorial: "The Next Step"]

[Text] Relations between countries are rarely as simple as they may look at first sight, and relations between the United States and Argentina are no exception. Despite the denials by Under-Secretary of State for Political Affairs David Newsom, there are differences between the State Department and Congress, and within the State Department and Congress, on U.S. policies towards Argentina. Telling people to stop speculating about them is as promising as telling them to stop speculating about divisions in our armed forces.

There are also many important differences among Argentines over the biggest single issue preventing really friendly and mutually beneficial relations between Buenos Aires and Washington, human rights. The actions of the gangs who have kidnapped significant people at sensitive moments have often been clearly aimed at provoking bad feelings between the two governments. So too, knowingly or not, are those who from inside government argue in favour of keeping people, uncharged with any offence, behind bars for prolonged periods. It is unfortunate that this has become more than a merely domestic issue, but the government can hardly feel badly done by if it is criticized for continuing to behave in a way outsiders cannot understand, much less justify. Now that the terrorist onslaught has been broken, the only sensible courses open are either to free the people held at the executive's disposal or to try them. Holding people for months or years without trial is simply not in accordance with this country's enlightened traditions.

The best way to disarm the terrorist propagandists spreading lies about the Argentine Government and the Argentine people from their comfortable safe-houses abroad is to deprive them of any ammunition. Terrorist propaganda may not cut much ice in the State Department, but it does have its effect among some congressmen and White House aides who know little about the situation here but are determined to win renown as stalwart defenders of human dignity in faraway places. These people may be gullible, but they are rarely positively malevolent, so a return to normal procedures here would inevitably deflate any attempt to "punish" Argentina for violations of standards that are accepted throughout the civilized West, even if they are systematically abused elsewhere.

There is evidently a debate among pragmatists and idealists in Washington and other Western capitals over what attitude to take towards our government. Now that the worst of the dirty war is apparently over, most pragmatists seem disposed to give it the benefit of the doubt. The task now is to win over the more reasonable among the idealists, and the only way this can be done is by rigorously applying higher standards than have been observed in recent years. This would not only improve the government's image, it would also be good domestic politics as well.

PAZ ESTENSSORO REPORTEDLY PLANS TO SEEK PRESIDENCY

PY011808Y La Paz Radio Panamericana in Spanish 1130 GMT 1 Jun 78 PY

[Excerpts] (Julio Prado Montano), head of the Santa Cruz Department National Revolutionary Movement [MNR] leadership, reported to our Santa Cruz correspondent that he has had a telephone conversation with Paz Estenssoro, head of the Historic MNR, who announced that he had decided to run as presidential candidate in the upcoming 9 July elections. (Julio Prado Montano) also reported that a large rally is being prepared to welcome Paz to Santa Cruz city on 4 June when he will officially announce his decision.

Our correspondent also reported the ceremony held at German Busch Military Aviation School on the 26th anniversary of the creation of that military training school. The ceremony was attended by the president, high-ranking officers and central government officials.

Gen Juan Pereda Asbun was among those attending the ceremony. The presidential candidate of the People's Nationalist Union [UNP] made statements to the Radio Panamericana correspondent regarding important aspects of his election campaign.

[begin Panamericana correspondent recording] The UNP presidential candidate has arrived in Santa Cruz and denied to the press that Alfredo Franco Guachalla is the UNP candidate for vice president. [end recording]

The Radio Panamericana correspondent in Santa Cruz concluded by reporting statements made by Army Commander Gen Alfronso Villalpando Armaza, who maintained that the unity of the armed forces remains unchanged and that it is also the decision of the military institutions to guarantee the electoral process going on in the country.

[begin Panamericana correspondent recording] Army Commander Gen Alfonso Villalpando, who arrived in Santa Cruz to participate in the Military Aviation School anniversary ceremony, stated at a press conference that the unity of the armed forces is a reality. The army commander also stated that the armed forces will inflexibly preserve the tranquillity of the country and that this firm decision has been taken after an analysis of past political events. Referring to the doctrine of the armed forces, he said that it is nationalism, interpreted as a program for collective development and prosperity.

Regarding the electoral process, General Villalpando said that it will be guaranteed by the armed forces, as long as the public peace is not disturbed and a subversive climate is not created. In his opinion, the electoral process is developing normally so far and activities are expected both from the nationalist sector and the opposition. The army commander said that power will be handed over to those winning the upcoming elections, but he doubted very much that the left would be able to win in view of its political weakness. [end recording]

BRIEFS

AGREEMENT WITH BELGIUM--Planning and Coordination Ministry sources revealed that an executive decree has been issued ratifying the agreement signed with Belgium providing for a loan for medical equipment purchases for a health center in the Tarija rural area. The loan amounts to about 50 million francs, payable in 20 years without interest. Under the provisions of the agreement, Belgian companies will supply medical and surgical equipment. [La Paz Radio Cruz del Sur Network in Spanish 2330 GMT 23 May 78 PY]

GEISEL SUBMITS JUDICIAL REFORM BILL TO CONGRESS

PY311348Y Sao Paulo Cadeia Verde Amarela in Portuguese 1000 GMT 30 May 78 PY

[Text] The judicial organic law called for under the judiciary branch reform was submitted to Congress yesterday by President Ernesto Geisel. In the preamble of this bill, [Justice] Minister Armando Falcão stated that this law has very important political significance because it expands the limits of the constitution insofar as preserving the dignity, the honor and the privileges of judges, even through punishment. So this bill is an effective safeguard and remedy for the problems affecting the nation's judiciary.

The bill provides penalties which can be applied to judges--namely, suspension or dismissal through due legal process. The law also sets the election of judges to the justice court for 2 years without reelection. The bill provides for the creation of a judiciary council endowed with disciplinary functions, and it forbids the appointment of lower court judges to this council except for temporary assignments.

SPOKESMAN DISCUSSES CANCELLATION OF TRIPARTITE MEETING

PY012032Y Paris AFP in Spanish 2352 GMT 31 May 78 PY

[Excerpt] Brasilia, 31 May--Luis Felipe Lampreia, Brazilian Foreign Ministry spokesman, stated here today that the indefinite postponement of the tripartite ministers conference regarding exploitation of the Parana River, which was scheduled for next week, should not cause surprise.

This postponement was perfectly foreseeable, according to Lampreia, who acknowledged the deadlock in the negotiations between the three countries--Argentina, Brazil and Paraguay--and said that Brazil will not take any new initiatives.

According to Lampreia the meeting which was convoked by the Brazilian Foreign Ministry for 8 and 9 June in Brasilia was canceled because the Argentine Government again introduced into the negotiating procedure several points which did not allow the achievement of an agreement.

Lampreia explained that because of these new points, "the conditions to arrive at an agreement were not present, and therefore the conference was not justified." He did not, however, say what the points were.

JAPAN SOUGHT AS MAJOR TRADE PARTNER

PY311239Y Brasilia Domestic Service in Portuguese 2200 GMT 30 May 78 PY

[Text] Speaking on the subject of "new opportunities for Brazilian-Japanese economic cooperation" at a seminar on Brazilian-Japanese trade-economic relations [held in Tokyo], Brazilian Planning Minister Reis Velloso has stated that Brazil is perhaps the only major country in the Western world which can help Japan markedly reduce its dependency in relation to mineral imports.

In his statement, Reis Velloso expressed the Brazilian desire to have a major partner in Asia pursuant to its alliances in the Free World, noting that Japan is a natural choice. He said that it is important for Japan to have an alliance with an emerging country like Brazil, which has a large market and virtually ~~inexhaustible~~ natural resources.

Reis Velloso reported that while total trade between the two countries amounted to approximately \$300 million in 1970, this trade amounted to about \$1.55 billion in the past 3 years. He also emphasized the rapid expansion of Japanese investments in Brazil, citing large joint projects--some completed and others underway--such as USIMINAS [Minas Gerais Iron and Steel Mills, Inc], CENIBRA [Celulose Nipo-Brasileira], NIBRASCO [Companhia Nipo-Brasileira de Pelotizacao], (Capanema), Albras, Alunorte, Tubarao [Steel processing plant project in Espirito Santo State] and the cattle land development project. These projects were noticeably stimulated by President Geisel's visit to Japan in 1976.

Reis Velloso stated that Brazil is one of the few countries which can expand its agricultural area almost in an unrestricted manner at this present stage. Regarding minerals and agricultural products, Brazil continues to maintain its decision to supply these goods to its trade partners, like Japan, through long-term contracts.

Reis Velloso reported that shortly before the departure of his mission from Brazil, studies were concluded on commercial cooperation and investments in 15 categories of manufactured products which Japan has been importing because of inadequate domestic production. He said: This is another type of cooperation we would like to expand and, to this end, Brazilian businessmen representing these areas are here today.

Regarding the expansion of Japanese investments in Brazil, Reis Velloso said: The philosophy of our legislation, which does not discourage investments, is well known.

Reis Velloso concluded by stating that it is important for the two countries to reach agreements to have the GATT multilateral talks yield effective results, primarily concerning incentives codes for exports. It is a guiding principle of the Brazilian position that some differentiation should be made in the treatment of underdeveloped and developed countries in determining the types of incentives for exports.

ARENA, MDB SENATORS DISCUSS REDEMOCRATIZATION FRONT

PY301947Y Sao Paulo Cadeia Verde Amarela in Portuguese 1000 GMT 30 May 78 PY

[Text] The presence of National Renewal Alliance [ARENA] Senator Teotonic Vilela in Sao Paulo will now be explained by reporter (Nilton Flora).

[begin Flora recording] Senator Vilela [ARENA-Alagoas] came to Sao Paulo to participate in the burgeoning (?resistance) movement. Senator, how do you assess the impact of the resistance movement?

[Vilela] We are meeting here with all those who are dissatisfied with the Planalto Palace decision on the man to be governor of the state. The dissidents, including Councilman Sampaio Doria, former Minister Severo Gomes, federal Deputy Faria Lima, state Deputy Castelo Branco and others, invited me to this meeting to begin a debate not only at the state but at the national level.

[(Flora)] We believe that a movement of this kind should involve a connection between civilian society and the armed forces. Will you try to establish this connection now?

[Vilela] The civilian society is constantly mobilized in an effort to restructure the country's political affairs, and in this effort it has support from a substantial sector of the armed forces.

[Flora] Are you looking for more support?

[Vilela] Any new support will be welcome, but we are not looking for more support, which is growing to the extent that there is a conviction that the power structure needs change.

[Flora] The philosophy of the front is not to pick the name of a candidate for the nation's presidency, but the name of Deputy Ulysses Guimaraes was launched in Rio Preto. What is your opinion on this? Wouldn't this divide the front?

[Vilela] Not at all. The name of the illustrious Deputy Guimaraes deserves respect. This does not threaten the unity of the front, but only proves that the climate is appropriate for launching candidates. Many have been proposed already. [end recording]

The question on the National Redemocratization Front was also posed to Senator Saturnino Braga.

[begin Flora recording] Senator Saturnino Braga [Brazilian Democratic Movement, MDB-Rio de Janeiro], what states would make the biggest contributions to the platform of the National Redemocratization Front?

[Saturnino Braga] I have just told other journalists here that Sao Paulo has to be the main contributor because this state is acknowledged as that having the largest population, the strongest resistance and the most dissatisfaction with the current situation--as can be noted among businessmen, labor, the church and politicians--as well as being the most important economically and politically. So I see Sao Paulo as the central site in shaping the platform of the National Redemocratization Front.

[Flora] Since the front now has three candidates already, won't this create difficulties? Because after the launching of the candidacy of Gen Euler Bentes Monteiro, the candidacy of Ulysses Guimaraes has just now been launched.

[Saturnino Braga] I do not see much difficulty since the front is not interested in the name of a candidate until the front has definitely been formed. After the front is consolidated, then we can pursue a candidate and I do not see much difficulty in agreeing on one of those three candidates because all of them meet the basic requirements of responsibility, dedication, honesty and ability in handling public affairs. They all could command the respect of the nation during this period of redemocratization we all hope for. [end recording]

Senator Franco Montoro, MDB-Sao Paulo, also participated in this interview.

[begin Flora recording] Senator Franco Montoro, what is the reason for this ARENA-MDB meeting?

[Franco Montoro] This is not an MDB-ARENA meeting. When I came in, other people like Teotonio Vilela, Severo Gomes, etc were already here in the press room. More than anything else, this is a coincidence of views, but it is also a sign of the emergence of a national redemocratization movement.

[Flora] Now that the candidacy of Ulysses Guimaraes has been launched in Rio Preto, what is your opinion?

[Franko Montoro] We are not here to discuss names, but obviously Guimaraes, as well as the other candidates, is qualified to be a candidate.

Our concern now is to reunite all the forces interested in the country's redemocratization, in the return to the state of rights and state of justice. We want to attract workers, businessmen, rural forces, housewives, students, university professors [words indistinct]. Well, we want to have a meeting of minds on an agenda for redemocratization first, and then on a candidate. [end recording]

MDB CONVENTION MEETS IN BRASILIA, ISSUES COMMUNIQUE

PY311850Y Porto Alegre Radio Gaucha in Portuguese 1545 GMT 31 May 78 PY

[Text] The Brazilian Democratic Movement [MDB] met in Brasilia at 0900 today for an extraordinary convention but without the quorum necessary to deliberate and make decisions. The convention began with slightly more than 200 of the total of 460 eligible delegates in attendance. The presence of 302 delegates is required before the party can make any decisions, and so the atmosphere is tense because the MDB is supposed to make important decisions today regarding the 15 November [congressional] elections.

Deputy Laerte Vieira, MDB-Santa Catarina, said that no decision will be made today on the party's participation in the presidential election. The main topic of discussion is the gubernatorial selection for Rio de Janeiro State, and the "authentic" wing of the party is opposed to participation in the process of indirect gubernatorial election. Deputy Getulio Dias, MDB-Rio Grande do Sul, favors that participation and believes that a presidential candidate supported by a broad opposition front will be accepted by the delegates. The convention will close debate and write a final resolution by 1400 this afternoon.

MDB Communique

PY012208Y Rio de Janeiro O GLOBO in Portuguese 1 Jun 78 p 6 PY

[Text of communique approved by special Brazilian Democratic Movement /MDB/ national convention held in Brasilia on 31 May]

[Text] The continuation in force of the exceptional laws and their growing utilization by the government have awakened strong overall displeasure among the people.

This is clearly shown by public demonstrations of various national sectors such as the Brazilian Bar Association (OAB), the Brazilian Press Association (ABI), the church, workers, students, businessmen, artists, intellectuals and grassroots organizations.

This is what prompted the statements by Senator Teotônio Vilela and the recent call of Senator Magalhães Pinto for the creation of a great democratic front, now confirmed by the note which he has signed together with Gen Euler Bentes Monteiro.

The Brazilian Democratic Movement, under the presidency of Oscar Passos and Ulysses Guimarães, has for many years made all possible sacrifices to achieve the democratization of the country, and it is no longer necessary to recall the many years spent on party organization and the martyrdom of many comrades in their quest for national awareness.

Without detriment to our programmatic guidelines, the joining of forces around a common objective, which is the effective implementation of the state of law, demands an organization whose ethical meaning must be provided by a basic program.

In view of this new national situation, each regional branch will decide whether to participate in the indirect election of the state executive. The assumption of power by those elected will be subject to the MDB's obtaining a majority in the state legislative assemblies.

In view of the imperative need to implement greater unity among the many opposition sectors and provide them with more effective means, the conventioners admit the possibility of participating in the coming presidential election in order to restore direct elections for all elective posts by calling the people to freely choose their leaders. On the other hand, the candidates must promise the nation to fulfill the following objectives, aside from their natural respect for the party program and its socioeconomic guidelines:

--Immediate abrogation of all exceptional laws and reformulation of all laws and regulations aimed at restricting public and private freedoms--such as those related to press, political and electoral propaganda, and union, artistic, literary, scientific, student and teacher activities. There must also be an intensification of the movement aimed at the abrogation of the April package.

--Respect for the principle of independence and harmony between the state branches, restoration of traditional guarantees for judges and reaffirmation of parliamentary immunity based on the guaranteed inviolability of congressional terms in office.

--Direct elections should be held at every level, insuring that all elective officials, especially the president of the republic, state governors, federal senators and mayors--primarily in state capitals--be elected through general, secret, direct elections.

--The full constitutional restoration of the declaration of individual rights and guarantees, thus removing present distortions, restrictions and conditions. Above all, the following rights must be fully guaranteed: "habeas corpus," broad and effective guarantees of the right to defense, judicial review of actions by the executive branch, freedom of religion, free association, freedom to hold meetings, freedom of political ideology, freedom of thought and freedom to provide information without censorship.

--The repeal of the death penalty, life imprisonment and deportation. To achieve reconciliation, an unrestricted political amnesty should be decreed since it is considered that the mere repeal of Article 185 of the 1969 constitution is not sufficient.

--A multiparty system which allows the organization and political participation of all significant sectors of opinion, having free access to power and being committed to respect the democratic institutions.

--The federative and republican principle, by strengthening on the one hand the autonomy of states and municipalities, even in the financial sector; and on the other, by guaranteeing and stimulating the formation of grassroots community associations which truly express the people's views on problems of interest for the community.

--Union freedom, by reformulating laws and provisions which have established the government's control over union organizations, and guaranteeing through adequate regulations the right to strike as a basic instrument through which the workers can make their legitimate demands, including safety at work and a fair wage policy which guarantees to everyone a standard of living in keeping with human dignity.

--Students should have freedom to learn and to participate in political activities outside political parties and within student organizations, free not only from exceptional laws and decrees but also from equivalent provisions which may be inserted within the internal regulations of schools.

--Once the necessary requirements are met for restoring normalcy to the country's political life, a national constituent assembly should be convoked to draft a new constitution on eminently democratic bases, seeking liberty and social justice through a sound policy to redistribute income and to avoid excessive concentration of wealth, regarding both individuals and regions.

Revanchist purposes, hatred and resentment should be put aside and the objective to achieve national reconciliation must prevail.

The MDB delegates believe this to be the best method to call upon all Brazilians to build our future, without endangering the present generation's right to participate in a true process of national development.

FIGUEIREDO DISCUSSES REDEMOCRATIZATION IN SALVADOR MEETING

PY310003Y Rio de Janeiro JORNAL DO BRASIL in Portuguese 27 May 78 p 5 PY

[Excerpt] Salvador--"We will have the courage to take some risks," Gen Joao Baptista de Figueiredo said yesterday when talking about the redemocratization of the country. He explained that "if we were to wait for the communists to lose influence, we would have to wait 1,000 years to normalize the country." The general made this statement during a meeting with Bahia businessmen at the hotel where he is staying in this city. The 25-minute meeting started at 1500 and was devoted almost entirely to discussing political problems.

Alfeu Pedreira, president of Bahia commercial association, stated that "we did not discuss party politics, but I would like to say that most businessmen want redemocratization. We must face the risks and have the courage we know you [Figueiredo] have." To this the general answered that he will in fact "run the risk" of redemocratizing the country, and added that "we will go on, we will fight." He did not discuss the matter any further and said goodbye to the businessmen after making these brief remarks.

The general met for 1 and 1/2 hours with journalists Joao Falcao, Jorge Calmon and Raimundo Maciel, directors of JORNAL DA BAHIA, A TARDE and DIARIO DE NOTICIAS. Questioned at this meeting, General Figueiredo stated that "who knows, it might be an idea," in reference to the suggestion that the press law be changed. However, he denied that this idea was receiving priority attention from the government.

"I am disposed toward a free but more responsible press. Much more responsible," categorized the general, breaking free from the journalists.

BRIEFS

COFFEE PRODUCTION--Sao Paulo, Brazil, 18 May--The president of the Brazilian Coffee Institute [IBC] today stated that Brazil's coffee harvest this year could be less than 17 million sacks, as compared to 16 million sacks harvested last year. His estimate is far below that published in December 1977 by the IBC, in which a total of 20.7 million sacks was forecast. [Paris AFP in Spanish 0522 GMT 19 May 78 PY]

STEEL PRODUCTION--Rio de Janeiro, 19 May--The Brazilian Iron and Steel Corporation today reported that Brazil's steel production during the first 4 months of 1978 reflected an increase of 7.2 percent over the same period last year. Steel production from January through April 1978 reached a volume of 2 million tons. [Paris AFP in Spanish 0700 GMT 19 May 78 PY]

FUNERAL FOR BOGOTA STUDENT ERUPTS IN VIOLENCE

PA011215Y Bogota Cadena Radical Super in Spanish 0000 GMT 1 Jun 78 PA

[Excerpts] Bogota--Student Patricio Silva, who was shot to death yesterday during the dramatic occupation of the National University, was buried today. Hundreds of university students who defied a steady rainfall to stage a silent protest march attended the funeral. The funeral degenerated into acts of violence staged against polling booths and government cars and some isolated stone-throwing incidents.

The incidents occurred after army trucks stopped near the 2,000 students who attended Patricio Silva's funeral. The students started throwing stones against the passing buses on 19th Avenue. Reliable sources said that close to 30 students and several citizens were arrested by the army in different parts of Santa Fe District, where the students fled.

Police spokesmen said that the public order situation is now normal.

University Council Rejects Violence

PA011302Y Bogota Cadena Radial Super in Spanish 0000 GMT 1 Jun 78 PA

[Communique issued by 31 May by National University Academic Council--read by announcer]

[Text] After a long period of normalcy, the National University during the past week was subjected to violent agitation promoted by small groups of students and persons alien to the institution. During this period, the directors of the university desperately tried to prevent clashes and to continue academic activity, thereby interpreting the desires of the great majority of the student body.

Yesterday, after the superior council decided to declare a short recess to prevent new outbreaks of violence, the climate of agitation culminated in a serious clash between activists and police, resulting in the death of student Patricio Silva, the wounding of several persons and serious damage to university property.

The Academic Council deplors the unfortunate death of the young student and expresses its rejection of the violence staged by groups which are enemies of the university and the inadequate and frankly excessive reaction to the situation by police.

ORDER RESTORED IN CARTAGENA FOLLOWING DISORDERS

PA011501Y Bogota Cadena Radial Super in Spanish 0000 GMT 1 Jun 78 PA

[Text] The police restored public order in Cartagena tonight following minor attempts in the last few hours to disturb the peace in the area around the University of Cartagena by blocking streets leading to the university.

This morning, law students from the University of Cartagena held a peaceful march which ended at the office of the governor of the department. The students were protesting against Decree 2-25 on legal regulations. The students staged a peaceful demonstration and symbolically burned Decree 2-25 to indicate their displeasure.

The chief of police has reported that the students dispersed peaceably after this public ceremony.

When a police contingent appeared, the students left. The students attempted to resume the street demonstrations this afternoon by blocking traffic on streets leading to the university and by holding rallies in the colonial sector.

On the outskirts of the walled section of Cartagena, there were some clashes, particularly in front of Centenario Park, a busy area. However, the situation was quickly brought under control.

Tonight, the area occupied by the University of Cartagena is completely surrounded by a heavy cordon of policemen armed with tear gas to forestall disorders. Access to the university campus has reportedly been barred. In addition, La Voz De la Heroica in Cartagena has been informed of the arrest of three students, whose names have not been released.

POLICE ARREST 14 PERSONS IN CALI, PALMIRA

FA011628Y Bogota Cadena Radial Super in Spanish 1100 GMT 1 Jun 78 PA

[Excerpts] Cali, Colombia--A total of 14 persons are being held by military authorities as a result of disturbances which took place yesterday morning in this city and in Palmira.

In Palmira, students of the agronomy school of the National University, protesting the death of a National University student in Bogota, destroyed the electoral information stands located in Bolivar Square and later broke the windows of the municipal treasury's offices. Two persons were arrested during these disturbances.

Twelve persons were arrested during incidents in Cali. These persons are now under the control of military judges. Regular and special troops of the 3d Brigade continue patrolling the city's downtown area and suburbs.

LOPEZ REITERATES IMPARTIALITY IN 4 JUNE ELECTIONS

PA012105Y Bogota Radio Cadena Nacional in Spanish 1730 GMT 1 Jun 78 PA

[Text] Bogota--President Alfonso Lopez Michelsen today made a vehement appeal to the citizens to go to the polls on Sunday. He made the appeal during the graduation ceremony of new officers at the military school.

In a brief speech, Lopez guaranteed his government's complete impartiality vis-a-vis Sunday's elections and noted that the results must reflect the people's will. Further on, Lopez asked for peace and harmony during the elections and said that he trusts the citizens and the presidential civilian and military delegates will cooperate in averting irregularities in the voting.

In addition, he strongly defended the country's armed forces, saying that, thanks to them, the country has been able to restore its democratic institutions. Lopez said that Sunday's elections cannot and must not be regarded as a plebiscite in favor of or against his government. I do not think I can say that if a given candidate wins or loses the election the government wins or loses it, too, Lopez added.

He said that his government will be a simple arbiter, divorced from the Colombian people's decisions. Moreover, he said that one cannot practice impartiality by suspending the inauguration of works or abstaining from speaking at ceremonies or defending one's government. The government shows its impartiality by preventing the country from being placed in a dilemma by not saying that a vote for or against a candidate is a vote for or against the government, he noted.

Lopez added that his government has not only allowed all candidates to participate [in the campaign] but has placed the communications media at their disposal, allowing them to outline to the citizens the different options they represent.

[begin Lopez recording] Up until these elections, we have been perfecting the mechanisms that should turn Colombia into the real democracy it was before. Behind us are the transitory institutions that were imposed precisely because of the need to proceed with utmost caution. However, voting will be completely open to all options on Sunday. An impartial state--a state in which all tendencies and doctrines have an opportunity--has not only allowed the presence of all candidates but has placed the information media at their disposal so they could explain the alternatives which they offer to the citizens.

This freedom, this excessive liberty to which reference is made on occasion, is the price of democracy. It is the price of the freedom which other nations long for.
[end recording]

MAXIMUM INTEREST RATES SET ON LOANS, SAVINGS CERTIFICATES

PA011936Y Bogota Cadena Radial Super in Spanish 1100 GMT 1 Jun 78 PA

[Text] Bogota--The government has fixed the maximum interest rate allowable on industrial loans granted through the industrial financing fund and the private investments fund at 18 percent.

The government's decision is contained in resolutions that have just been issued by the monetary board to standardize the interest rates prevailing in the financial market and those of the system of savings certificates with constant purchasing power.

In general terms, the interest rates were reduced by 2 percent. Banks may not charge more than 22 percent interest on money loaned from savings or more than 27 percent on money loaned from term deposit certificates. Financial middlemen may not pay more than 22 percent to savers.

Government Defends New Regulations

PA012253Y Bogota Radio Cadena Nacional in Spanish 1730 GMT 1 Jun 78 PA

[Text] Bogota--The government today defended the meaning and extent of the monetary regulations announced during the past few hours. It said that they are basically oriented toward adjusting the financial system and avoiding distortions in that system resulting from the lower inflationary rhythm [menor ritmo inflacionario].

The commercial banks in turn reacted favorably and emphasized the contents of the regulations. Finance Minister Alfonso Palacio Rudas said that if these measures had not been taken a serious distortion in the monetary market would have occurred in the near future due to the lower inflationary rhythm. He said that the 2-percent reduction in the interest rates corresponds to cost of living estimates made by the government. He said that a 2-percent decrease in the consumer price index is expected in June. During the year it would amount to 15.5 or 16 percent. This would automatically decrease the monetary correction in the (?Overseas Private Investment Corp) system in a proportion similar to the reduction in the other interest rates which have just been decreed.

Meanwhile, Ernesto Samper Pisano, president of the National Association of Financial Institutions, said that the measures are beneficial to the country since they establish a balance between the various rates of interest.

He also emphasized that the government is determined to resume control over interest rates since the financial reform of 1974 had left them in the hands of the capital market.

Former Minister Jorge Mejia Palacio, representative of the Antioqueno Commercial Bank, said that the measures are in accord with the present situation of greater stability in the national economy and that they only affect the banking system slightly since the reduced interest rates in investments are compensated by reduced rates in savings. He said, however, that the Bank of the Republic should also make this sacrifice, reducing the interest rates of rediscounts [redescuentos], which go as high as 35 percent.

Finally, the president of the housing and savings bank said that the measures in no way affect the constant value system since the variations in that system reflect the inflationary process. He noted the control imposed by the government on the financial middlemen and said that this would establish a considerable control over resources. He said that a 0.6-percent monetary correction will take place in June equal to the lowering of the inflationary rhythm.

CONTRACT CONCLUDED FOR REPAIRING CUBAN SHIPS

PA251426Y Bogota Cadena Radial Super in Spanish 1100 GMT 25 May 78 PA

[Text] Cuba has just concluded a contract with Colombia which provides for the repair of Cuban ships. The contract is worth \$1 million, that is, about 40 million pesos. The Cuban ship Palma Soriano arrived in Cartagena today and will be repaired in the local shipyard as provided for in the contract.

The director of the Cuban commercial office in Colombia, Orlando Hernandez, disclosed that the funds of the export promotion department will be used to pay for these services rendered by Colombian industry to Fidel Castro's government. The Palma Soriano is the first ship to arrive in Colombia for repairs. It was also announced that Colombia and Cuba are studying possible textile and commercial agreements.

20 POUNDS OF COCAINE FOUND ON MILITARY PLANE

PA302241Y Bogota Cadena Radial Super in Spanish 0000 GMT 27 May 78 PA

[Text] Leticia, Colombia--Alleged armed forces members have once again been implicated in drug trafficking with today's discovery by F-2 agents of a cocaine shipment in the hold of a military airplane about to take off from Leticia airport. After a thorough search of the (?FAC) 1106 Satena airplane, secret police agents discovered 20.5 pounds of pure cocaine in several packages hidden in tool cases in the plane's hold. No arrests were made but the police have obtained clues which will permit the arrest within the next few hours of those involved in the case.

This is the third case in which alleged military men and paramilitary men have been involved in drug trafficking. The first case involved the discovery of drugs aboard the training ship Gloria. In Barranquilla, a large marijuana shipment aboard several army trucks was confiscated. Today, the scandal is repeated with the case of the Satena airplane used by the air force for transportation in the country's far south.

FOREIGN MINISTRY CRITICIZES CONGRESSMAN'S REMARKS

PY301703Y Asuncion PATRIA in Spanish 30 May 78 p 1 PY

[Communique released by Foreign Ministry on 29 May]

[Text] The Paraguayan Foreign Ministry, which has the duty of preserving loyal and frank understanding with the nations which maintain friendly relations with our country, feels obliged to state its position in view of the attitude of former Congressman Domingo Laino, who, from Washington (United States), has requested foreign intervention to obtain a change in Paraguay's power structure through unacceptable economic pressure, which implies serious intervention in the internal affairs of a sovereign country.

Paraguay has fought, has shed its blood, to defend the principle of nonintervention, to keep its freedom of self-determination safe and to maintain the right of the people to freely elect their leaders. Therefore, public opinion emphatically rejects the intentions of this individual, who represents nobody and is inciting a revival of the times of mockery and prostration in our fatherland.

Before international public opinion, the Foreign Ministry rejects and repudiates the lies and calumny about and against the Paraguayan people and government and expresses, with the truth of history, that wherever a good Paraguayan is, regardless of his political beliefs, he will become a defender of national dignity in order to face the insolence of those who request the umbrella of foreign flags to alter the popular, free and democratic will which has been expressed through unobjectionable elections.

BRIEFS

SALES TO FRG--Paraguayan sales to the FRG during the first half of May reached \$2,181,426.60, placing that country in the position of largest buyer of Paraguayan goods. The last few biweekly statistical reports have shown that Japan has become one of Paraguay's principal buyers, while England's purchases have been steadily decreasing. Japanese purchases during the first half of May totaled \$954,761.39; Italian purchases, \$1,936,045.49; Netherlands purchases, \$1,821,221; Swiss, \$1,309,393.70; and Argentine, \$838,288.06. [Asuncion ULTIMA HORA in Spanish 20 May 78 p 13 PY]

EXPORTS TO ARGENTINA DECREASE--Central Bank statistics indicate that exports to Argentina during the first 3 months of 1977 amounted to over \$4 million; during the first 3 months of 1978 they only amounted to just over \$2 million. Exports to Argentina in 1974 amounted to \$38 million; in 1975, \$49 million; in 1976 they fell to \$18 million; and in 1977 they increased to \$35 million. The principle products exported to Argentina are: lumber, fresh and preserved fruits, vegetables, coffee, beans, palm hearts, vegetable and essential oils and artisan products. [Asuncion ABC COLOR in Spanish 26 May 78 p 9 PY]

PURCHASE OF DC-8'S--The Paraguayan Government has authorized the purchase of two DC-8's for the government-owned Paraguayan airline, to be used for commercial flights to the United States. Each airplane will cost approximately \$2.5 million and will be negotiated through Lloyds Bank International Limited of London, with financing of \$11 million. [Asuncion ULTIMA HORA in Spanish 30 May 78 p 8 PY]

FIVE NATIONS PROVIDE \$85 MILLION IN CREDIT

PY020300Y Lima Radio Union in Spanish 0200 GMT 2 Jun 78 PY

[Text] Economy and Finance Minister Javier Silva Ruete today announced that Peru obtained an immediate favorable reply from Argentina, Brazil, Mexico, Spain and Venezuela to a request for short-term financing to guarantee [word indistinct] to the (?Peruvian Central Bank). Silva Ruete reported that the financial officials of these countries favorably replied to a request for an \$85-million credit. [Words indistinct] the policy adopted by the government which was recently reiterated by the president of the republic. Silva Ruete recalled that President Morales Bermudez stated that the government is strongly determined to maintain Peru's national sovereignty and independence in international relations. [passage indistinct]

PRESIDENT MORALES TO ATTEND WORLD CUP MATCH

PY012000Y Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1308 GMT 1 Jun 78 PY

[Excerpts] Cordoba, 1 Jun--Peruvian President Francisco Morales Bermudez is expected to arrive in this city on Saturday to attend the first game which his country's team will play against Scotland in the world football championship, according to disclosures made by the Peruvian delegation.

The Peruvian chief of state will also visit, during his stay in this city, the first international fair of Cordoba (FICO 78) which is taking place on a site in front of the Chateau Carrera multisports stadium where world championship games are scheduled to be played.

FPP PROTESTS BAN ON PUBLICATIONS, EXPULSIONS

PA281620Y Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 2248 GMT 27 May 78 PA

[Text] Lima, 27 May (LATIN)--The Federation of Journalists of Peru (FPP) today protested the military government's closing of nondaily publications and the deportation of several citizens, particularly magazine directors.

According to an FPP communique, the ban on these publications constitutes an attack on freedom of expression and the expulsions violate human rights.

The government banned political magazines on 19 May after suspending constitutional guarantees and declaring a state of emergency in the wake of a number of disturbances staged to protest several economic measures.

The deportations took place 1 week later after two retired military officers and several politicians, union leaders and magazine directors were accused of promoting the national strike staged on 22 and 23 May.

The communique blames the government for the country's current economic and financial crisis and demands that it authorize the circulation of magazines and allow those who were deported to return.

Lima and the neighboring port of Callao are currently under a curfew lasting from 2400 to 0500 (0500 and 1000 GMT) as a result of the disturbances reported in the past 2 weeks.

PARTY CHAIRMAN FERREIRA ALDUNATE CRITICIZES GOVERNMENT

LD261435Y Madrid EL PAIS in Spanish 23 May 78 p 4 LD

[Eduardo San Martin interview in Madrid with Uruguayan National Party [Blanco Party] Chairman Wilson Ferreira Aldunate: "The Uruguayan Military Have Created an Impossible Situation in the Country"--date not given]

[Excerpt] Question: In other Latin American countries in which the bottom seemed to have been reached, the system itself is in the process of seeking solutions and improving its image--solutions involving the adoption of certain political measures, albeit timid ones. This does not seem to be happening in Uruguay.

"We Are Not Prepared To Wait 40 Years"

Answer: Under these conditions, in this impossible situation in the country, solutions must, of course, be sought. But what solutions? Here in Spain you find people who say: "Well, what about a Spanish-type solution? There is a time when the country grows weary and decides to resume its path in peace." But that means waiting 40 years. And I am not prepared to do so, and I am sure that Uruguayans are not, either.

So how can we find a way out? Look, there are certain features which have marked the Uruguayan process. One of them--perhaps the most important--lies in the fact that, unlike neighboring countries, the army in Uruguay had no tradition of political training and entrusted the task of government to a team of civil servants recruited from among people of astounding mediocrity. These civil servants are obliged to out-Herod Herod and never indulge in being cautious for fear of appearing weak. This is what gives the Uruguayan regime its image of arrogant defiance and makes it say the stupid things which it says.

I do not believe, either, that there are grave disagreements in the military system, as leftwing sectors hoped at one point. What there will be are two kinds of problems. I have the impression that there are two generals who want to run as candidate for the presidency of the republic--Gen Gregorio Alvarez, the new commander in chief of the army, and Valera, a former commander and ambassador in Paraguay. This is the way in which disputes arise which end up leaving deep marks. But that is not all. I would say that there should be--must be--elements among the officers who can see, even though they cannot express themselves, that those who are heading the regime are leading the country inexorably toward its destruction. It is inevitable that these military personnel, who are anxious that the army should cease to be what it is now--an army of occupation--will sooner or later show themselves.

Question: The new U.S. administration has played an important role in the transformation of neighboring regimes. Could it also be a factor of pressure on Uruguay?

Answer: I do not doubt it, although in Uruguay we do not have the same circumstances as in other countries; that is, we do not have big foreign investments to defend. But there is something which must not be forgotten, and that is that the Uruguayan Army has its weapons thanks to the United States. Our military personnel dress the same way as the Americans. They have borrowed everything--even the ideology. Uruguayan military personnel have studied in the Canal Zone and in Texas, and used to regard themselves as champions of Christian civilization, in fraternity with the great nation in the north.

So the new U.S. policy is provoking a crisis among them, especially when they discover that it does not only represent the viewpoints of the liberals in Congress. This has left them in the air, forced to rediscover a false nationalism. They, who allowed foreign police to operate in our country, are now regarding any concern about the state of civil rights in Uruguay as an act of external aggression.

Question: So it is a regime at the end of its tether which has lost its main foreign ally. Is there therefore any possibility that the Uruguayan parties can force a political change?

Answer: Look, holding a political meeting is a crime punished with the most sadistic measures. It is an inhuman and despotic regime. An election has been announced for 1981 which will in fact be a plebiscite which bears no resemblance even to Hitler's plebiscites, because you could at least vote "no" in the latter. In this one there is one candidate and compulsory voting. This is what they are announcing as a democratization process. They also say that they will allow participation of the traditional parties--mine--the Blanco Party--and the Colorado Party, but combined and supporting a candidate designated by the military. I believe that not even they believe in this solution, and it basically reflects only an internal dispute in the military apparatus. I can clearly state, on behalf of my party, that we will never accept any solution which does not respect the possibility of participation by all political forces and all citizens--everybody. There are currently 15,000 Uruguayans deprived of their political rights by virtue of their ideology. I am among them, fortunately.

Question: Is there any possibility of uniting all the parties in a front against those attempts?

Answer: "Front" in Uruguay is the name of a "cooperative" of parties which ran in the latest elections (the Broad Leftwing Front), and this means that, because of the very name, the idea is useless to us. I believe that there is no Uruguayan who does not believe that removing the dictatorship is a task for everybody. This has ceased to be an ideological problem and become a problem of national decency, and it would be criminal not to allow all Uruguayans to cooperate in order to overthrow the dictatorship. But I would not say the same with respect to the need for reaching agreement on how to organize the country once the dictatorship has been eliminated. It is good for the country for each political force to preserve its individuality.

Question: You are talking rather about a single way to emerge from the dictatorship, without prejudice to each preserving his identity.

Answer: Since I have been living abroad, I have met with thousands of fellow countrymen and have discussed millions of things with them. But I have never asked them to what party they belong. There is a duty of solidarity--true solidarity--among all those living in exile, a solidarity which is very real. Homelands are collections of dead people. That is what forges unity. We had dead people in common--too many, unfortunately--and precisely because of respect for those dead people we are not going to continue quarreling over trivialities, forgetting the fundamental objectives.

"It Will Not End Very Soon, But Soon"

Question: As party chief, do you see on the horizon a way out more or less in the short term?

Answer: I know that this way out exists, which is the most important thing. The way out is more important than the time. It would be tragic if I did not know whether or not it will end.

But I know that it will end, and, moreover, that it will end in the not too short term, but not in the long term either. I would venture to say in the short term. It might not be very good Spanish, but in our colonial Spanish the phrase would be: It will not end very soon, but soon.

Question: Neighboring countries have experience in democratization. There are the cases of Ecuador, Bolivia and Peru, where difficulties have been arising recently. To what extent could the success or failure of these experiences affect Uruguay?

Answer: Naturally, experiencing the disappearance of military regimes encourages competitors and weakens similar regimes. But the importance of the argument must not be exaggerated, because I believe that there are some specific reasons in my country. I believe that pseudodemocracies and tutelary democracies are more viable in other places with less solid democratic traditions. The Uruguayan democratic tradition is so strong that it is very difficult to open small cracks without producing terrible fissures. Whenever the regime tries to liberalize itself, however little, it is immediately obliged to increase repression, because the people seize upon any opportunity. This was what happened with the so-called "parity committees," where the government is the sole participant. The government decides everything: the employers' representatives and, in agreement with the employers, the workers' representatives. Well then, problems have already been created in the parity committees.

Question: Despite the parties' refusal of the way out advocated by the regime, has the latter attempted at any time to enter into contact with Uruguayan politician groups?

Answer: The armed forces have tried it. Colonel Martinez, an official associated with the army command, has even made totally confused proposals to people in our party, to offer them a way out and to seek cooperation. But the level of contact secured has been so lamentable--in our case it was a matter of people unrepresentative of the party--that they did not dare to say so publicly and even denied reports along these lines. They have also tried it with other parties, but the truth is that in no case have they secured interlocutors.

INTELLIGENCE GROUP MOVED TO INTERIOR MINISTRY

PY240148Y Montevideo Radio Carve Network in Spanish 0000 GMT 24 May 78 PY

[Summary] The president has decided that the national information and intelligence directorate will now operate as a national service under the Interior Ministry.

HUNGARIAN TEXTILE MISSION STUDIES PURCHASES

PY301800Y Montevideo Cadena de Oro del Interior in Spanish 1600 GMT 30 May 78 PY

[Text] A Hungarian commercial mission is currently in Montevideo. This mission has arrived for the specific purpose of purchasing textile, leather goods and woolen and cotton material. The mission has been collecting samples and price lists and studying possible contracts to supply the Hungarian market, which is currently forced to buy 20 percent of its products abroad. The mission announced that a similar group will arrive in September to purchase clothes and shoes.

PRESIDENT PEREZ TO VISIT JAMAICA

PA291945Y Caracas Radio Continente Network in Spanish 1000 GMT 29 May 78 PA

[Text] Venezuelan President Carlos Andres Perez will go to Jamaica on 2 or 3 June. The visit is chiefly aimed at attaining justice and fairness in international relations, making a change in the traditional practice of putting obstacles in the way of the welfare of poor nations, said an official Venezuelan Foreign Ministry spokesman. He added that Venezuela's fundamental goal is to disseminate its experience gained through its 50 years as an important oil producer. It was said that President Perez will make use of this opportunity to discuss with his colleague, Michael Manley, the strategy to be followed in regard to world disarmament.

SINGLE ELECTION TO BE HELD IN DECEMBER

PA262009Y Caracas Radio Continente Network in Spanish 1000 GMT 26 May 78 PA

[Text] Carlos Delgado Chapellin, president of the Supreme Electoral Council, announced at the end of a regular meeting of the council that there will definitely be a single election on 3 December, the day set for the elections. He said that the special electoral council committee, which for the past several days has been studying a proposal to hold separate elections for president, senators, deputies and councilmen for the 1979-1984 period, recommended that the elections be conducted in the same manner they have been until now.

Delgado said that the Supreme Electoral Council also approved several (?proposals) regarding the use of parks and public plazas for campaign events. Such events must meet the minimum requirement of being conducted in a civilized manner. Consequently, it is necessary that the laws in effect be applied. Campaign processions, for example, will be required to adhere to a set itinerary, date and time.

GUERRILLAS ATTACK DISIP PATROL IN SAN FELIX

PA011653Y Madrid EFE in Spanish 0155 GMT 1 Jun 78 PA

[Text] Caracas, 31 May (EFE)--Three persons were injured when a guerrilla group attacked a patrol of the Directorate of Intelligence and Prevention Services (DISIP) on a street in San Felix, a city about 600 kms east of Caracas. It was also reported today in Caracas that the intelligence services uncovered a guerrilla arsenal in Maracaibo, a city situated 700 kms west, near the Colombian border.

Persons passing by on the street in San Felix were injured during the shooting between the DISIP and three individuals who were driving a European vehicle and who apparently escaped.

In Maracaibo, 38 grenades, several submachineguns and other U.S.-made weapons were found wrapped in plastic in a hole 1 and a half meters deep. Four persons were killed and six were injured on 9 February when a grenade similar to the ones found exploded. The security corps continues digging in the area, searching for more hidden weapons.

After having been inactive for [word indistinct] years, the decimated guerrilla groups which still exist in Venezuela began sporadic actions in November 1977 killing several soldiers. The guerrillas were very active in Venezuela in the 1960's.

AGRARIAN REFORM SECRETARY RESIGNS

PA012109Y Paris AFP in Spanish 1841 GMT 1 Jun 78 PA

[Text] Mexico City, 1 Jun (AFP)--Jorge Rojo Lugo, secretary of agrarian reform of Mexico, resigned today, it was officially announced.

Rojo Lugo, who is the third minister of President Jose Lopez-Portillo's administration to resign, will return to the post of governor of the state of Hidalgo, which he held up to the time he went on a leave of absence in order to join the present cabinet.

The Agrarian Reform Secretariat was recently the target of attacks by some groups. President Lopez-Portillo himself admitted in a public statement that the Agrarian Reform Secretariat was hindering the development of the nation's agriculture.

SOCIAL SECURITY AGREEMENT SIGNED WITH VENEZUELA

FL012201Y Mexico City INFORMEX in Spanish to ANSA Buenos Aires 2104 GMT 1 Jun 78 FL

[Text] Mexico City, 1 Jun (ANSA-INFORMEX)--The convention on mutual cooperation in the field of social security that was signed yesterday between Mexico and Venezuela represents "one more link in the Latin American alliance on social security," stated the general director of the Mexican Institute of Social Security, Arsenio Farell.

The convention was signed on behalf of the two countries by the Mexican representative and his Venezuelan counterpart, Enzo Dominguez Malave, at a brief ceremony.

Farell added that this is a triumph for the two countries and, above all, a demonstration of the goodwill that exists for exchanging experiences and knowledge to offer better protection for the worker and his family.

MAUS PUBLICATION PRAISES LOPEZ-PORTILLO USSR TRIP

PA011330Y Mexico City International Service in Spanish 0300 GMT 1 Jun 78 PA

[Text] In view of the internal and external circumstances under which it was carried out, President Jose Lopez-Portillo's trip to the USSR and Bulgaria is of singular importance. Above all, it is a contribution to the detente and peace desired by nations and to the new international economic order, says an editorial of LIBERACION, the publication of the Socialist Action and Unity Movement [MAUS].

In its third issue, on the newstands today, LIBERACION says that the Mexican president's trip is in line with the lofty principles of the Mexican people who have struggled tirelessly for peace, general disarmament and a new economic order.

LIBERACION went on to add that at a time when some nations claim war is inevitable or are secretly manufacturing ever more deadly weapons, the USSR's signing of the Tlaltelolco treaty is one of the results which by itself would justify Lopez-Portillo's trip to the USSR.

AMBASSADOR ADDRESSES UNGA SESSION ON DISARMAMENT

PA010423Y Panama City Televisora Nacional in Spanish 2315 GMT 31 May 78 PA

[Text] Jorge Illueca, Panamanian ambassador to the United Nations, said today that Panama's greatest interest in the disarmament field is obtaining recognition of Panama's geographic function as a peaceful communications route for all nations of the world. In a speech at the special UN General Assembly session on disarmament in New York, Ambassador Jorge Illueca said that his country does not want its territory to be used for military ends or to shelter foreign troops that might be used for insurgency or counterinsurgency measures in other countries in or outside the hemisphere.

Dr Illueca also expressed the hope that the permanent neutrality of the Panama Canal established in the recent treaties with the United States will be perfected with the help of the international community. He also expressed satisfaction that the complementary instruments of the canal treaties contain, at Panama's request, the U.S. commitment not to install any type of nuclear arms on Panamanian territory.

The Panamanian ambassador to the United Nations was the only Latin American speaker at today's session. The representatives of Angola, Vietnam and Egypt also spoke today.

Supports Venezuelan Proposal

PA011900Y Panama City Domestic Service in Spanish 1730 GMT 1 Jun 78 PA

[Text] Panama has expressed its enthusiastic and determined support for a Venezuelan proposal aimed at reaching a regional agreement to stop the arms race. Venezuela has asked the signatories of the Declaration of Ayacucho--Argentina, Chile, Bolivia, Colombia, Ecuador, Peru and Panama--to meet in New York during the present special UN General Assembly on disarmament to discuss the possibility of all Latin American states' reaching an agreement on the subject of conventional weapons.

In a speech to the UN General Assembly, Panamanian Ambassador Jorge Illueca said our country was particularly receptive to the Venezuelan proposal because of the acceleration of the regional arms race. The foreign ministers and delegation heads of the eight nations that signed the Declaration of Ayacucho held the first meeting in New York last week. According to the Panamanian ambassador, they will meet again in New York this month to continue discussing the subject.

PAPER HAILS TORRIJOS REMARKS TO BUSINESSMEN

PA312049Y Panama City LA ESTRELLA DE PANAMA in Spanish 30 May 78 p 4 PA

[Editorial: "Assessment of CADE-78"]

[Text] The results of the deliberations held by the Panamanian Association of Business Executives on Contadora Island a few days ago can be regarded as highly positive and encouraging. This is particularly true if one bears in mind that Gen Omar Torrijos was present and that he made statements which were very encouraging for private enterprise. The active and permanent cooperation of private enterprise in the development of our economy cannot be underestimated.

With the sincerity and candor that characterize him, the chief of government and indisputable leader of the revolutionary process that began in our country almost 10 years ago did not hesitate to admit that the administration has made errors and mistakes. However, he expressed a firm determination to make amends whenever they are necessary and useful in order to accelerate the economic takeoff that has begun following the ratification of the canal treaties.

There seems to be no doubt that the internal factors which have contributed substantially to curbing our development and prolonging our recession as well as those of an international nature which have affected and are still affecting us have been fully identified. There has been a drop in productivity, which means higher costs and, therefore, higher prices; investments have decreased, fearing disruptions of a diverse nature; unemployment indexes have risen; payments have been suspended; and even bankruptcies have taken place.

Obviously, many and varied factors have contributed to these regrettable results. Many of them are still with us and are still beyond our control. However, it is undeniable, and General Torrijos has admitted, it, that many things have to be corrected or amended in our country. The corrections and amendments will be made gradually through consultation with the affected sectors. The dialog between the authorities and private enterprise that started on Contadora Island within a very promising and very cordial atmosphere must become permanent in order to be fruitful.

It is necessary to establish the rules of the game in order to respect them and to comply with them. Thus, there will be a new takeoff in our economic structures soon, with positive benefits for all. This includes the elements who, with unspeakable goals, have been trying through every possible means within their reach to curb our development and to create problems for the government.

PATRIOTIC ALLIANCE ISSUES COMMUNIQUE

PA312134Y Panama City LA ESTRELLA DE PANAMA in Spanish 29 May 78 p 18 PA

[Communique issued by the Patriotic Alliance--date not given]

[Text] For the anticommunist struggle, for the progress of the individual and for our Panama, compatriots:

In view of the present situation prevailing in the country in which the MARXISTS, the eternal enemies of freedom and democracy, are increasingly and gradually disseminating ideas which are alien to our personality, ideas which are false and proven failures, we, "the Patriotic Alliance," which consists of a union of conscientious students and professionals of the new generation, have established this union in order to put a STOP to the groups of the LEFT. We are all aware that the ideology which it professes denies the most cherished values of the nation's soul and seeks to divide Panamanians through a deliberate struggle among classes which are apparently antagonistic for the purpose of imposing a totalitarian and oppressive system that denies the dearest attributes of man as a rational and free being. This system is COMMUNISM.

The common characteristic of the "revolutionary" leftist groups in our Panama is that they should not be called "sellers of the fatherland" but, rather, "donators of the fatherland," since at all costs they wish to see us converted into a satellite of Cuba and Russia. They do not realize that the fatherland exists because of its ideas and they even want to endanger the fatherland's sovereignty and its security.

Ever since its birth, our fatherland has always been free. It has been free ever since Simon Bolivar liberated us, riding with "his sword and his cross" rather than with the "hammer and sickle."

We believe in respect for the human being as an individual, recognizing his spiritual value, and in the development of a political system which is proper to our country, not an imported ideology that is contrary to all the desires of Panamanians. For this reason, we will fight for the real and effective progress of the fatherland within a "free enterprise" economy, since true nationalism does not consist of rejecting foreign investments but, rather, of subjecting such investments to rules which guarantee that the benefits which Panama will receive will be a primary consideration. For this reason, we believe that the development of groups with communist ideas should not be permitted or promoted within our environment because these ideas run counter to freedom and the sentiments of our Panamanian people.

It is no secret. Everyone already knows of the infiltration of foreign communists in our country and the great work that they are doing in conjunction with native communists, who are becoming a new problem in our fatherland. However, they are not satisfied with infiltrating. They are even interfering in San Blas, where there is an air bridge with Cuba by which means they are sending Cuna Indians to have their brains washed with the poisonous doctrine that is MARXISM. We have already seen one result of this--a group of San Blas Indians, indoctrinated in Cuba, has destroyed, in the name of the left, a hotel which brought progress to the region.

In addition, another tactic that is characteristic of the left in Panama is the attempt to destroy the people's level of culture. We therefore see how they interfere in the students' classes, in secondary schools as well as in the University of Panama, with their messiahs "who spread hatred and rancor among Panamanians." To accomplish their goal, they lead students into the streets under the tyranny of foreign slogans. It is also necessary to observe the continuous trips by students to the island of Cuba and the large-scale existence, which has increased in recent years, of communist literature--magazines and books--and even the imposition of communist professors in order that they may indoctrinate as many students as they can. In opposition to all this, we believe in the access of youth to culture in a manner that will give them equal social opportunities in life. We believe that education should teach youths the great values of nationality without seeking any kind of indoctrination or political thought control, since this harms the sacred respect for the freedom of thought of the human being.

We now ask: Do the Marxists believe, by chance, that with the aid of Cuba and Russia they are going to establish a communist Panama--where freedom, the family, morality or the church will not exist--without being rejected by the people of Panama?

We fight the left because its ideology implies the denationalization of the fatherland, a division among Panamanians and a retardation of our development.

It involves denationalization because, instead of seeking our path based on the history of the fatherland, our personality and experience, it turns to foreign ideologies and international movements. It involves a division among Panamanians because the Marxists profess a criminal division of the people, "based on the class struggle" which is a struggle between brothers, when the thing to do is to build a just society, not destroy it. Finally, it involves a retardation of our cultural, economic and social development because competence and technique are subordinate to "party militancy" in a world which daily demands greater scientific and technical knowledge to effectively solve social problems.

In view of all this, we cannot remain apathetic and indifferent while we see how our fatherland sickens. Instead, we are filled with internal anguish. Bossuet said it aptly: "The worst aberration of the spirit consists of seeing things as they should be rather than as they are."

Therefore, the truth is that the Marxist infamy is in the soil of our beloved fatherland and it is necessary to say "no more" to its "daring." That is why we will not commit the error noted by Bossuet.

This communique, apart from being a message from "the Patriotic Alliance," is also a call for us to continue uniting all conscientious students and professionals of the new generation in order to continue to exercise greater conscientious and responsible participation as the key to a living and pure democracy which will eliminate Marxism.

For this reason, with the help of God, we know that we will achieve our ideals since we are completely nationalistic and we believe that every day we must love Panama more, love our fields and our cities, love our historic past with its forefathers and statesmen, love our flag, our coat of arms and our national anthem, all of which are symbols of our nationality.

We will not permit foreign theorists and messiahs to replace the image of the founders of our nationality.

"This is the beginning of an unending struggle of Panama, by Panama and for Panama."

BRIEFS

AIRLINE AGREEMENT WITH MEXICO--Jorge (Kendejas), director of aeronautics of the Mexican Transportation Secretariat, announced today that Panama and Mexico have signed a 4-year bilateral airline agreement. The Mexican official explained that the agreement will allow Mexico's national company to fly from Mexico to our country and from here to all South America. [Panama City Domestic Service in Spanish 2230 GMT 30 May 78 PA]

INTER-CENTRAL AMERICAN AFFAIRS

SALVADORAN, HONDURAN NEGOTIATORS DISCUSS TALKS

PY020334Y Lima Radio Union in Spanish 0200 GMT 2 Jun 78 PY

[Text] Salvadoran Foreign Minister Jose Antonio Rodriguez Porth and former Foreign Minister Cesar Batres, head of the Honduran negotiating commission, arrived in Lima today to comply with their obligation of presenting to mediator Jose Luis Bustamante y Rivera their points of disagreements.

The Salvadoran and Honduran negotiators stated that substantial progress has been made in their peace talks and that in principle the two governments have already agreed on two of the (?six) points of disagreement they have been discussing under the mediation of Bustamante y Rivera.

COSTA RICA

GOVERNMENT COUNCIL PARDONS FSLN LEADER PLUTARCO HERNANDEZ

PA011325Y San Jose Cadena de Emisoras Columbia in Spanish 1220 GMT 1 Jun 78 PA

[SERCANO Network]

[Text] The Costa Rican Government Council agreed last night to pardon Plutarco Hernandez Sanchez, known in Sandinist National Liberation Front [FSLN] guerrilla circles as Comandante Cero. The pardon was granted even though the Costa Rican Supreme Court did not recommend it.

NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL COUNCIL MEMBERS ANNOUNCED

PA012111Y San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 1730 GMT 1 Jun 78 PA

[Text] The government has officially announced the makeup of the first board of directors of the National Agricultural Council [CAN]. The new members are Agriculture Minister Dr Hernan Fonseca Zamora, president of CAN; Planning Minister Wilburg Jimenez, vice president; Minister of the Presidency Jose Rafael Cordero Croceri; Economy Minister Fernando Altmann Ortiz; Guillermo Gonzalez Truque, executive president of the Central Bank; Carlos Roberto (Robert), executive president of the National Production Council; and Prof Jose Joaquin Munoz Bustos, executive president of the Institute of Lands and Settlement.

NATIONAL LIBERATION PARTY ADMITS INTERNAL PROBLEMS

PA011916Y San Jose LA NACION in Spanish 24 May 78 pp 1A, 8 A PA

[Abelardo Garcia article]

[Excerpts] The leaders of the National Liberation Party [PLN] have admitted the party is experiencing a very serious crisis, the worst one this party has ever had, which is the result, among other things, of the 5 February defeat.

Party leaders were interviewed on the present situation and said that in spite of the crisis they are planning the party's reorganization. They also said that there is an internal schism within the group and that Armando Arauz Aguilar, who is the chief of the PLN wing of the Legislative Assembly, has practically no power.

It was also said that there have been many organizational errors such as, for example, trying to turn the PLN into an electoral machine; the confrontation between former Presidents Jose Figueres Ferrer and Daniel Oduber Quiros or between candidates Luis Alberto Monge and Hernan Garron Salazar; the lack of attention given to various sectors within the middle class who left the party because the ideology of the party was not revised; and the fact the party did not take a definite stand on several national problems, mostly because it has no communication with its grassroots organizations. It is noted that 380,000 members are directed by a group of only 70 persons.

The various leaders interviewed seem to agree that Daniel Oduber Quiros is the (present) strongman of the party. They also give a certain importance to Monge Alvarez, a little to Garron Salazar, and almost none to Figueres Ferrer.

Deputy Marcelo Prieto Jimenez, representative of the PLN youth, said that the present crisis is the most serious one in the history of the party. He quoted from an analysis of the present situation he presented to the group he leads. He said his party was born of an alliance of social sectors which sought to modernize the Costa Rican state with a sense of justice. "However," he added, "at the time of its inception a sector of the oligarchy infiltrated the party and has had a tremendous influence for many years. Very outstanding citizens from San Jose held important posts in the Legislative Assembly and in the central government." Prieto Jimenez added that the unity of the above-mentioned social classes was done at their own convenience and actually served to delay the process of democratization of Costa Rican society.

He said the party needs to establish certain collective procedures. "We think that the excessive influence of one person in the leadership of our political group is harmful," he said.

He said that Figueres has very little participation within the party right now. "He has lost the strength he had. At any rate, he never had much influence within the party's structure."

Concluding Prieto Jimenez spoke of the battle which must be waged to solve the problem. "First we must struggle for the unity of the party, postponing all activities until the process of internal revision is completed," he said. "Besides, the organization must be done according to the process of democratization, the educational program must be strengthened and the ideological structure must be reviewed. Future policies must be defined," he added. "It is also very important to strengthen vigilance over our ethics and ideology," the representative of the PLN youth concluded.

GUATEMALA

LAUGERUD BLAMES CASTRO FOR PANZOS KILLINGS

PA012053Y Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2002 GMT 1 Jun 78 PA

[Text] Guatemala City, 1 Jun (ACAN-EFE)--Guatemalan President Gen Kjell Laugerud Garcia today accused Fidel Castro and his cohorts of the Poor People's Guerrilla Army (EGP) of being responsible for the killings in Panzos. The Guatemalan president said that the nomadic peasants of the northern part of the country were instigated by the leftist guerrillas of the EGP to invade private ranches in the Province of Alta Verapaz and to attack the army garrison. This resulted in the clash last Monday in which dozens of people were killed and wounded.

General Laugerud, who has only 30 more days left before completing his 4-year presidential term, added that the Indian peasants of northern Guatemala have also been instigated by Catholic priests and protestant ministers to invade privately-owned lands. As an example the president said that the rebel peasants were shouting "the land belongs to God" during the attack on the Panzos military garrison.

National Defense Minister Gen Otto Spiegelger said that 34 peasants were killed in Panzos and not 100 as the labor unions have charged. The high-ranking Guatemalan military official added that many communist guerrillas have been active in the northern part of the country and have been indoctrinating the peasants to invade privately-owned estates.

HONDURAS

FOUR FSLN GUERRILLAS CAPTURED BY ARMY

PA011447Y Paris AFP in Spanish 0556 GMT 1 Jun 78 PA

[Excerpt] Tegucigalpa, 31 May (AFP)--The Honduran Committee of Solidarity with the People of Nicaragua charged here today that four members of the Sandinist National Liberation Front (FSLN) were captured by the Honduran Army. The committee members added that the "Nicaraguan patriots" were arrested on 26 May in the Honduran town of El Pacon, El Paraíso Department, near the Honduran-Nicaraguan border. The arrested Sandinists were identified as Doroteo Duarte Lopez, Juan Francisco Sabillon, Lorenzo Duarte and Jose Rivera Barahona.

GOVERNMENT SETS ELECTIONS FOR 20 APRIL 1980

PA011634Y Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1504 GMT 1 Jun 78 PA

[Excerpt] Tegucigalpa, 1 Jun (ACAN-EFE)--The Honduran military government today set 20 April 1980 as the date for elections for a constituent assembly that will return the country to a constitutional regime. The National Electoral Tribunal will formally convoke the elections on 1 December 1979 after all preparations have been completed and an electoral census has been taken. The deputies which are elected to the national constituent assembly will be notified of their election 30 days after their election and will be installed no later than July 1980.

The official communique added that all citizens qualified to vote will be given their identification cards from 15 August 1978 through 30 August 1979. In September 1979 the National Electoral Tribunal will review the electoral census and by October of the same year will have posted an authorized copy of the census which will be open for any changes. By November 1979 the Electoral Tribunal will have resolved any requests or changes and by April 1980 the census will be final.

NICARAGUA

FISHING VESSEL CAPTURED BY HONDURAS

PA011344Y Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 0330 GMT 1 Jun 78 PA

[Text] The Nicaraguan Chamber of Fishing Industry has reported to the Defense Ministry that the ship Patricia has been seized [words indistinct]. The Chamber of Fishing Industry states that the ship was seized in Nicaraguan waters in the Atlantic Ocean by Honduran military launches in what is considered a violation of Nicaraguan sovereignty. Nicaraguan fishermen are asking for protection.

TORRAS RECEIVES VIETNAMESE ENVOY, REAFFIRMS SUPPORT

FLO11033Y Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1024 GMT 1 Jun 78 FL

[Text] Pelegrin Torras, deputy foreign minister of the Republic of Cuba, has received in Havana City Ha Van Lau, ambassador of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam.[SRV]. At the meeting the Vietnamese diplomat delivered to Pelegrin Torras the 27 May declaration of the SRV Foreign Ministry. In this document the Vietnamese Government refutes the slander campaign undertaken by China accusing the SRV of mistreating and expelling from its territory Vietnamese of Chinese origin.

The Cuban deputy foreign minister reaffirmed to the Vietnamese ambassador the solidarity and support of the Cuban Government and people for the just positions of the SRV contained in the aforementioned declaration.

MPLA DELEGATION VISITING SANTIAGO DE CUBA

FLO11634Y Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 1 Jun 78 FL

[Text] A delegation from the MPLA-Labor Party of the fraternal Angolan Republic has held a fraternal meeting with members of the Committees for the Defense of Revolution in Santiago de Cuba. The delegation consists of (Felipe Pizarro), chief of the MPLA political education department, and two other leaders. The meeting was attended by Antoinio Diaz, chief of the PCC Central Committee internal education department; Central Committee official Edmundo Machado; and Antonio Rodriguez, chief of the party's internal education department in Santiago de Cuba.

MOZAMBIKAN HOUSING MINISTER ARRIVES IN HAVANA

FLO12023Y Havana Domestic Television Service in Spanish 1700 GMT 1 Jun 78 FL

[Text] Comrade Julio Zamith Carrilho, minister of public works and housing of the People's Republic of Mozambique, arrived in our country early this morning at the head of a delegation. Jose A. Lopez Moreno, our country's construction minister, and other officials dealing with Minister Zamith's area of specialty were at the airport in Rancho Boyeros to receive the distinguished visitor. During his stay in Cuba, the Mozambique construction minister will meet with various Cuban officials with whom he will formulate measures for economic cooperation between Cuba and the People's Republic of Mozambique.

BOHEMIA INTERVIEWS ECONOMIC COOPERATION COMMITTEE HEAD

PA011341Y Havana International Service in Spanish 2310 GMT 31 May 78 PA

[Text] In a recent interview granted to the magazine BOHEMIA published in Havana, Hector Rodriguez Llompart, miniter-president of the State Committee for Economic Cooperation, member of the Cuban Communist Party Central Committee and chief of the Cuban delegation to the fourth regular council of the Latin American Economic System--LAES--said: In reference to Latin American coordination and consultation, it was agreed at the meeting in Venezuela to establish a joint regional position for the international events that will be held in 1978 and early 1979 which will deal with technical and economic cooperation among developing countries and the use of science and technology for development and for the fifth period of sessions of the UN Conference on Trade and Development.

Rodriguez Llompart said that with this agreement Latin America, along with the rest of the developing countries and the socialist community, will be able to increase its negotiating power in the debates with the developed capitalist countries, which historically have been opposed to the just demands of the so-called Third World.

The Cuban delegate to the LAES council held in Venezuela said that the most important agreement, because of its political significance and the mutually beneficial relations that will surely be established, is the mandate granted to the LAES Permanent Secretariat to establish contact with the Council for Mutual Economic Assistance--CEMA--to outline the possible areas of economic, trade, financial and technological cooperation between the two organizations.

Hector Rodriguez Llompart said that the minimum objective conditions exist for the Latin American state sector to actively participate in LAES projects and programs. He stressed the importance of promoting awareness of such a necessity and eliminating all obstacles. In our view, the Cuban representative said, the Latin American state economic sector is the only one able to decisively influence the development of LAES projects and programs and to make the political and economic priorities of those projects compatible with Latin American social needs.

In answer to a question from a newsman, the minister-president of the State Committee for Economic Cooperation said that, in view of the geographic proximity, similar development characteristics and the territorial size of its nations, in the specific case of the Caribbean region, there are undoubtedly common interests and problems that facilitate cooperation among its nations, either through the Caribbean community or the Caribbean Committee for Development and Cooperation, in which Cuba, Haiti, the Dominican Republic and the English-speaking countries of the area participate. This facilitates cooperation at the Latin American level within LAES.

Hector Rodriguez Llompart stressed that the process of integration in the Caribbean area worries U.S. imperialism, particularly because it is a geographic area where the first socialist revolution of the Western Hemisphere is located and consolidated, the one which has destroyed the old reactionary doctrine of geographic fatalism. In recent times U.S. imperialism has carried out a destabilizing policy, a variant of the one undertaken several decades ago and known as the big stick policy. Another more recent variant of that policy is the good neighbor policy which seeks to destroy the efforts of Caribbean and Latin American unity and prevent one more [word indistinct] of the blockade on Cuba. In view of this situation, it is necessary to struggle against those divisionist maneuvers which can only benefit anti-Caribbean and anti-Latin American interests.

CASAS REGUEIRO CLOSES CENTRAL ARMY EXERCISE

FL011904Y Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1700 GMT 1 Jun 78 FL

[Text] Division Gen Senen Casas Regueiro, first deputy minister-chief of the general staff and member of the PCC Central Committee, made the closing remarks at the exercise "Festival 78" at the Central Army's Heroes de Playa Giron theater. Participating in the exercise that was held over several days in the central provinces of the country were the general staffs and units of the Central Army, the Revolutionary Air Force and Antiaircraft Defense, DAAFAR, the Revolutionary Navy, the Interior Ministry, and civil defense delegations and municipal and provincial military committees.

Senen Casas stressed the importance of this activity and stated that its objectives are directed toward improving training to safeguard the fatherland and socialism. He examined in depth the deployment of forces and equipment that participated in the military exercise and the experiences gained by each participant. He stated that the activity also served to continue extending work relations between the armed forces, the Interior Ministry and the other guiding organizations. He stated that the improvement of the defense methods and mechanisms complements one of the agreements of the First PCC Congress.

Division Gen Senen Casas Regueiro labeled the political and party work and the different forms of propaganda undertaken during the exercise "Festival 78" as good. He also pointed out that the activity, because of its importance, development and significance, lived up to its name as one of the largest tasks of this type carried out in the country saluting the 11th World Youth and Students Festival. He told of the support offered by the PCC and the Union of Young Communists--UJC--to the several missions undertaken and labeled the exercise as satisfactory.

Also in the presidium were Revolutionary Armed Forces--FAR--deputy ministers, generals, army chiefs, and leaders from the party and people's government from the central provinces, Soviet military specialists, and FAR and Interior Ministry officers.

NEW MILITARY IDENTITY CARDS TO BE ISSUED

FL011952Y Havana Domestic Television Service in Spanish 1700 GMT 1 Jun 78 FL

[Text] At the rear guard officers club in Havana City, a press conference has been held by Col Arnaldo Trutie Matilla, chief of the Organization and Mobilization Directorate of the Revolutionary Armed Forces Ministry--MINFAR--on all aspects of the military identification cards that will be given shortly to all citizens of our country of military age--to those who fulfill their active military obligation as well as to the reserves.

At the conference Col Arnaldo Trutie stated that two types of military identification cards have been established, one for reserve officers and another for reserve sergeants, soldiers and sailors, in two different colors--green for officers and red for the others. Colonel Trutie added that the form and content will differ depending on the characteristics and necessities of those in each category.

Beginning with the present call to active service this June, the active military identification cards will be given to all young preinductees who are drafted. Reserve officers, just as sergeants, soldiers and sailors, will gradually get their cards beginning in August, in accordance with the plans of each province and the Isle of Pines Special Municipality.

Colonel Trutie stated that the military identification card is a single, personal and intransferable document, constituting a basic military control document. At the same time, it educates, creating citizen awareness of obligations to comply with tasks relating to the defense of the fatherland.

CASTRO SENDS GREETINGS TO VOLUNTEER CANECUTTERS

FL011614Y Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 1 Jun 78 FL

[Text] Commander in Chief Fidel Castro, first secretary of the PCC and president of the Council of State and Council of Ministers, has sent greetings to the members of the contingent of canecutters from the transportation workers trade union, especially to its standard-bearing 61st Anniversary of the October Revolution brigade, the country's best volunteer canecutters brigade. PCC Politburo member Guillermo Garcia conveyed the message of the leader of the revolution in his closing remarks at a ceremony held in Artemisa last night. The banner marking the 7 million arrobas of sugarcane cut during the current harvest by the hardened brigade named after the October Revolution was presented during the ceremony.

Guillermo Garcia said that the brigade is writing a beautiful history led by those who, with their daily effort, occupy the vanguard position in the struggle for the country's economic progress.

CUBAN, MEXICAN UNIVERSITIES SIGN COOPERATION AGREEMENT

FL311107Y Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1000 GMT 31 May 78 FL

[Text] Cuban and Mexican universities have signed a health cooperation agreement which is part of a general scientific and technical cooperation agreement between the two countries. The agreement was reached between the universities of Guadalajara in Jalisco and of Santiago de Cuba. It covers exchange of experiences and joint research and scientific work.

CIEGO DE AVILA MEETINGS PROTEST NEUTRON BOMB

FL312027Y Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1815 GMT 31 May 78 FL

[Text] Activities repudiating production of the neutron bomb have been carried out by the Committees in the Defense of the Revolution--CDR--in Ciego de Avila Province. About 57 meetings were held at which thousands of Ciego de Avila CDR members participated during the present UN General Assembly special session on disarmament. At the events conferences were held on the objectives of that international meeting and afterwards they sent messages to the United Nations supporting disarmament, protesting production of the neutron bomb and in favor of world peace. The people of Ciego de Avila in this way join with the rest of the country and the demonstrations of international public opinion in opposition to production of weapons and favoring peace and the well-being of all peoples of the world.

BRIEFS

ANGOLAN RADIO-TV ACCORD--Cuba and Angola have signed a cooperation agreement in the field of radio and television. The agreement includes training of Angolan technicians in different specialties and exchange of experiences. Our country will provide technical assistance to raise the quality of radio and television programs of the Angolan People's Republic. [Text] [Havana Domestic Television Service in Spanish 1700 GMT 27 May 78 FL]

DATA PROCESSING CENTER--The first data processing center built by the Agriculture Ministry in Camaguey Province has been inaugurated at Triangulo Uno Agricultural-livestock enterprise in Jimaguayu Municipality. Rafael Francia Mestre, member of the PCC Central Committee and minister of agriculture, cut the inauguration ribbon. [Excerpt] [Havana Domestic Television Service in Spanish 1700 GMT 29 May 78 FL]

JAMAICA

REPORT OF CALLS FROM INSIDE PARTY FOR MANLEY'S RESIGNATION

FL311657Y Kingston Domestic Service in English 1630 GMT 31 May 78 FL

[Text] The People's National Party [words indistinct] a front-page article in this morning's edition of the DAILY GLEANER which said that calls were being made inside the party for the resignation of Prime Minister Michael Manley as party leader and prime minister. A spokesman for the party headquarters told JBC news this morning that officials of the party had been discussing the matter this morning and a statement would be issued either later this afternoon or tomorrow. The spokesman would not give details of the discussion, but JBC news understands that the statement, when issued, will categorically deny any such calls as well as reports that the national executive council [words indistinct]. It is further understood that Mr Manley might be leaving [word indistinct] party offices when he returns from the state funeral of Mr Robert Bradshaw tonight. [Words indistinct] have been asked to stand by for a meeting.

In the meantime, efforts by JBC news to get a response from the office of the prime minister met with little success as the prime minister's press secretary could not be contacted. He was at a meeting. However, unofficial sources quoted the press secretary, (Mr Claude Robinson), as saying there is no truth in the matter.

NETHERLANDS GRANTS J\$12-MILLION DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE

FL301350Y Kingston DAILY GLEANER in English 26 May 78 p 1 FL

[Excerpts] An understanding by which Jamaica will receive financial assistance from the Netherlands Government amounting to approximately J\$12 million (18 million guilders), was signed yesterday by Finance Minister the Hon. Eric Bell and the Netherlands ambassador, Dr. Herman A.H. Schouten, at the Finance Ministry.

Earmarked for assistance under the agreement are agricultural projects, education, housing and projects in the industrial sector. These priorities were agreed upon in consultations between the Netherlands Government and the Jamaican Government in December last year, on how the money should be utilized.

The major part of the financial assistance is a loan and, by the understanding arrived at, it is to be used to purchase goods and services from the Netherlands and also from developing countries which may have on offer such goods and services as Jamaica may need.

The loan is repayable over thirty years, at an interest rate of 3 3/4 per cent, with a ten-year period of grace.

The grant portion of the understanding has no strings attached.

This assistance has been directed at Jamaica's social programmes through which the less privileged and poor are helped. It is the fourth consecutive year that Jamaica has been the recipient of such assistance.

DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

GUZMAN SAYS NO ROOM FOR COMMUNISTS IN HIS GOVERNMENT

FL011221Y Santo Domingo Radio Mil Network in Spanish 1000 GMT 1 Jun 78 FL

[Excerpt] President-elect Antonio Guzman has asserted that his government will not include communists and it will follow the social democracy with which the Dominican Revolutionary Party is aligned. Guzman immediately explained that his not allowing communist influence in his government does not mean that his government will persecute communists. He explained that distinctions should be made in talking about social democracy and radical communism. When I say that communists will not participate in my government, it does not mean that I am going to be persecuting them for their ideas, the constitutional president-elect reiterated.

GUYANA

PPP REAFFIRMS OPPOSITION TO CONSTITUTION AMENDMENT BILL

FL011425Y Kingston DAILY GLEANER in English 30 May 78 p 5 FL

[Text] Georgetown, Guyana, May 28 (CANA)--The executive committee of Guyana's Marxist opposition Peoples Progressive Party (PPP) has reaffirmed the party's opposition to government's controversial constitution amendment bill, which goes to a referendum in July. The bill seeks to alter the mode for the introduction of a new constitution by removing the necessity for future referendum and substituting a two thirds parliamentary majority.

The PPP's weekend statement followed a session of the executive committee last Friday, when the country's political situation was reviewed. The policy statement said:

"The PPP reiterated its commitment to Marxism-Leninism (scientific socialism) and proletarian internationalism and to the creation of a national front government of all left and democratic forces with an anti-imperialist, socialist-oriented programme as the only vehicle for uniting the people, transforming the economy, resolving the crisis, safeguarding our national independence and sovereignty, and achieving social progress."

The PPP noted a recent statement by Prime Minister Forbes Burnham that he is a Marxist. It added that the ruling party was however "hoping to achieve the impossible" because, the PPP said, the ruling party was trying to build socialism on lack of democracy, political and racial discrimination, and national and cultural oppression. The party did not give specific instances to support its charges.

Dealing with the constitution bill, the PPP said its executive committee "sees that the advocacy by the PNC [People's National Congress] of a new constitution and the baptism of the present spent parliament as a constituent assembly to prepare a new constitution are mere diversionary moves, a smokescreen, to hide the naked fact of the constitution without elections of a minority party in government." It added: "Such manoeuvres will do nothing to help in grappling with the pressing problems facing the people. Instead, they will lead to further divisions. What is needed is a political solution. Without a solution to the political crisis there can be no solution to the social and economic crisis."

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